

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAA-01 SES-02 HA-05 SSM-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 CPR-02 /104 W
-----119131 060033Z /64

R 060013Z SEP 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3188
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03453

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, IS
SUBJECT: ISRAELI UN PERMREP BLUM PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS

1. AFTER PRESENTATION OF HIS CREDENTIALS TO THE SYG ON
SEPTEMBER 5, ISRAELI UN PERMREP BLUM DELIVERED THE STATE-
MENT TRANSMITTED BELOW TO THE PRESS. THE STATEMENT
CRITICIZES THE UN AS DOMINATED BY A COALITION OF DICTATOR-
SHIPS AND TOTALITARIAN REGIMES WHICH HAVE SUPRESSED HUMAN
RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES WHILE
PRETENDING TO CHAMPION THOSE CAUSES IN THE INTERNATIONAL
ARENA. BLUM FORESEES CONTINUING STEADY DECLINE IN THE UN
STANDING IN PRESTIGE. A BRIEF CLOSING PARAGRAPH
EXPRESSES HOPE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE CAMP
DAVID TALKS.

BEGIN TEXT.

I HAVE JUST PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS TO THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL AS ISRAEL'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED
NATIONS. I HAD A VERY CORDIAL AND USEFUL CONVERSATION WITH
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CO-OPERATING
WITH HIM CLOSELY IN THE FUTURE. LET ME TELL YOU THAT I
REGARD MY NEW ASSIGNMENT NOT ONLY AS A DISTINCT HONOUR AND
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PRIVILEGE, BUT ALSO AS A TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE.

IT IS AN HONOUR TO SERVE MY COUNTRY AND MY PEOPLE IN THIS
ORGANISATION, THE CHARTER OF WHICH ESPOUSES THOSE UNIVERSAL
PRINCIPLES WHICH WERE FIRST PROCLAIMED IN JERUSALEM ALMOST
3,000 YEARS AGO BY THE PROPHETS OF ISRAEL; THE EQUALITY
AND BROTHERHOOD OF MAN, THE INTRINSIC DIGNITY AND VALUE OF

THE HUMAN BEING, AND THE IDEALS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
ETERNAL PEACE AMONG NATIONS.

"HAVE WE NOT ALL ONE FATHER?" EXCLAIMS THE PROPHET MALACHI
"HAS NOT ONE GOD CREATED US? WHY THEN DO WE DEAL TREACHER-
OUSLY EVERY MAN AGAINST HIS BROTHER?"

IT IS THUS APT THAT THE WORDS OF ISAIAH PROCLAIMING THE
IDEAL OF BEATING SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES - THE IDEA OF
TOTAL AND GENERAL DISARMAMENT IN UNITED NATIONS PARLANCE -
ARE INSCRIBED ON THE ISAIAH WALL ACROSS THE STREET, SO AS
TO SERVE AS A KIND OF MOTTO FOR THIS ORGANISATION.

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO SERVE AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
IN THIS WORLD BODY FOR YET ANOTHER REASON. IT IS ALL TOO
OFTEN FORGOTTEN THAT THE UNITED NATIONS IS THE PRODUCT OF
THE GREAT WAR-TIME COALITION THAT CAME INTO BEING TO FIGHT
THE FORCES OF NAZISM AND FASCISM, THE ENEMIES OF
MANKIND, OF HUMAN PROGRESS AND DECENCY. THOSE FORCES OF
EVIL AND HATRED SINGLED OUT THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS THEIR
PRIME TARGET, JUST AS THE FORCES OF HATRED HAVE DONE
THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WHILE THEY INFLICTED
UNTOLD MISERY AND DESTRUCTION UPON THE WHOLE WORLD, THERE
CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE MAIN VICTIM OF THEIR GENOCIDAL
PRACTICES WAS THE JEWISH PEOPLE. IT WAS THUS ONLY NATURAL
THAT JEWS THE WORLD OVER RALLIED TO THE CAUSE OF THE UNITED
NATIONS WHICH FOUGHT THE NAZI-FASCIST SCOURGE. MORE THAT
1 1/2 MILLION OF THEM FOUGHT IN THE RANKS OF THE ALLIED
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ARMIES THAT EVENTUALLY CRUSHED THE AXIS POWERS AND BROUGHT
THIS ORGANISATION INTO BEING. THESE FACTS APPEAR TO BE
FORGOTTEN IN THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE SEVENTIES.

BUT AS I SAID BEFORE, I CONSIDER MY MISSION ALSO AS AN
ARDUOUS CHALLENGE. THE UNITED NATIONS NOW CONSISTS OF
ABOUT 150 MEMBERS. THEY BRING TO THIS ORGANISATION
THEIR DISTINCT CULTURAL AND POLITICAL TRADITIONS AND WAYS
OF LIFE. IT IS THE TASK OF ALL OF US TO SEARCH WITHIN
THIS DIVERSITY FOR WAYS TO IMPLEMENT THE COMMON GOALS AND
OBJECTIVES LAID DOWN IN THE CHARTER. UNFORTUNATELY, IN
RECENT YEARS THE UNITED NATIONS HAS DEPARTED VERY CON-
SIDERABLY FROM THESE GOALS AND PRINCIPLES. NO DOUBT
THERE ARE MANY REASONS FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT BUT THE ONE
THAT PROBABLY STANDS OUT MOST CLEARLY IS THE FACT THAT THE
UNITED NATIONS OF 1978 IS DOMINATED BY A COALITION OF
DICTATORSHIPS AND TOTALITARIAN REGIMES THAT HAVE SUPPRESSED
HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ROLE OF LAW IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES
WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PRETENDING TO CHAMPION THOSE VERY
CAUSES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA. WE ARE THUS BEING
TREATED IN THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE PREPOSTEROUS SPECTACLE
OF STATES WHO HAVE MADE A MOCKERY OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRA-

CY AT HOME, PROFESSING THEIR DEVOTION TO ITS
PRINCIPLES INTERNATIONALLY. AS LONG AS THIS SITUATION
PERSISTS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THE STEADY DECLINE IN
THE STANDING AND PRESTIGE OF THE UNITED NATIONS CAN
BE CHECKED. AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL, I SHALL TRY
TO CONTRIBUTE MY MODEST SHARE TOWARDS BRINGING THE UNITED
NATIONS BACK TO ITS AVOWED PRINCIPLES, WITH A VIEWS TO
STRENGTHENING ITS ROLE IN THE EYES OF MANKIND.
I REGARD IT AS AN AUSPICIOUS OMEN THAT I SHOULD HAVE PRE-
SENTED MY CREDENTIALS ON THE EVE OF THE CAMP DAVID TALKS.
ISRAEL HOPES THAT THESE TALKS WILL TAKE US ONE STEP FURTHER

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R 060013Z SEP 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03453

TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GENUINE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT DURING MY TERM OF OFFICE AT THE
UNITED NATIONS WE SHALL WITNESS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THAT
PEACE. END TEXT. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, TEXT, AMBASSADORS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN03453
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780361-1215
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780996/aaaadbqd.tel
Line Count: 155
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cb166956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1525557
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI UN PERMREP BLUM PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS
TAGS: PGOV, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cb166956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014